

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY Yugoslavia

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SUBJECT Kranj Rubber Factory

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NO. OF ENCLS. 3 (A, B, C)
(LISTED BELOW)

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SOURCE

Equipment and Production

1. the Jugoslovanska Tvoronica Gume /Yugoslav Rubber Factory/ which is located in Kranj, Yugoslavia. The plant was begun in 1921 and expanded gradually until 1943. The machinery was old and in poor condition. It was purchased in 1921 from the Semperit Rubber Company of Austria. Two second hand mixers were purchased in 1936, but they were very old.
2. The plant employed 550-600 people, 65-70% of whom were women. The workers spoke Slovenian. Rubber stoppers, rubber soles and heels, a type of moccasins, gaskets, gas mask filters, rubber toy balls, atomizer bulbs, bicycle and automobile tires and tubes, and all types and sizes of rubber hose were produced. There were also facilities for the retreading of automobile tires. Bicycle tires, soles and heels and hose were the principal products. We could not do very much precision work because of the age and condition of the plant equipment. We processed 500-600 tons of raw rubber per month. I would estimate production at 3,000-5,000 kilograms per eight hour day. Other production figures I recall are:
 - 1,200 bicycle tires per eight hour shift
 - 800-900 kilograms rubber soles and heels per eight hour shift
 - 6-8 automobile tires per day
 - 20 automobile tire retreads per dayWe were also able to coat or impregnate cloth with rubber.
3. The machinery operated on both 220 and 380 V. Electricity was purchased from the power company at Kranj. I do not recall what the voltage was, but it was adjusted by the plant transformers /see Enclosure (A)/. The water used in the manufacturing processes was lifted from the Sava river by electrical pumps /see Enclosure (A)/.

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4. The chemicals used in the manufacturing processes were transported from the mixing room to the place of use by small handcarts. Raw materials and finished products were carried between the railroad station at Kranj and the factory by truck.

Professional Staff

5. The professional staff comprised a managing director, the engineer-manager for machinery repair, two chemical engineers and two mechanical engineers. There were nine departments, each headed by a foreman, as follows:

- a) preparation of rubber mixtures
- b) mixing room
- c) vulcanization of industrial articles
- d) auto and bicycle tires
- e) rubber covering and impregnation
- f) water hoses
- g) compressor hoses
- h) reclamation of used rubber
- i) mechanical and electrical maintenance

6.

persons

employed at the Kranj Rubber Plant.

Helmut Furzansk - chemical engineerMax Mikush - purchasing agent(fnu) Jereb - foreman of industrial vulcanizationMiss (fnu) Sterger - bookkeeper

the clerk had been recently discharged because of "political difficulties".

German Occupation

7. After the German occupation, the name of the plant was changed to Krainburger Gummi Werke. Production was stepped up and one chemical engineer was discharged. Fewer articles were manufactured. We made radiator hoses for trucks and as the allied bombings of Germany stepped up, the orders for fire hose increased.

Other Yugoslavian Rubber Plants

8. There were two other rubber factories in Yugoslavia - the Bata plant which also operated the largest of the factories in both Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia and was the biggest producer of automobile tires in Yugoslavia and another factory located in Serbia, the name of which I do not recall. It was small and its products which I have seen and examined were of very poor quality.

- end -

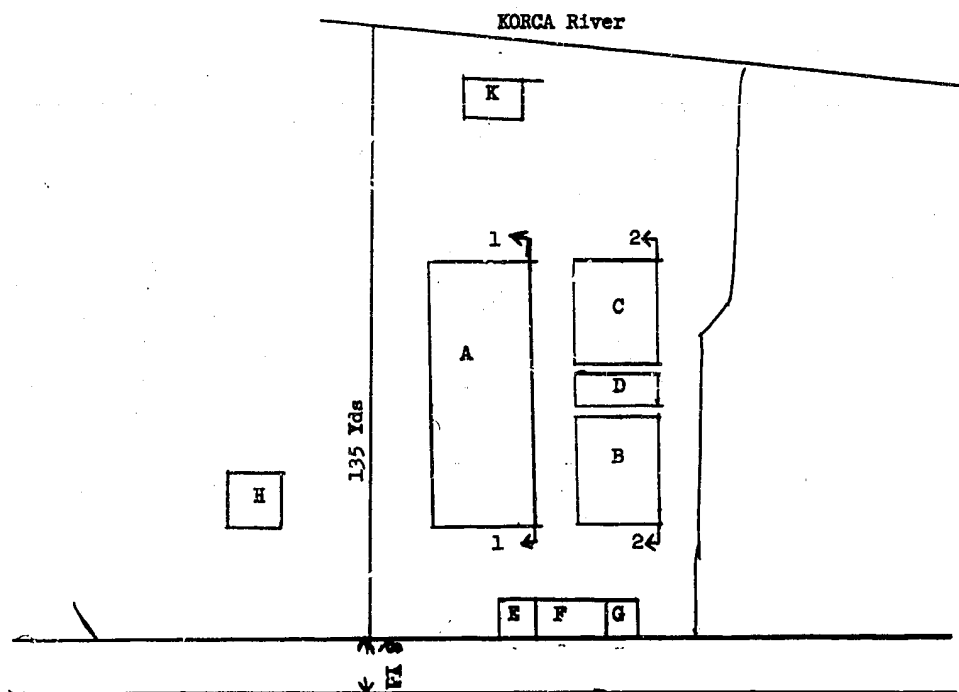
ENCLOSURE (A): Plant Transformer of Kranj Rubber Factory
 (B): Building B, Section 1-1 of Kranj Rubber Factory
 (C): Building B, Section 2-2 of Kranj Rubber Factory

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ENCLOSURE (A)

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PLANT TRANSFORMER OF KRANJ RUBBER FACTORY



↑
300 Yds
↓
(Park)

- A. See Enclosure (A)
- B. See Enclosure (B)
- C. See Enclosure (C)
- D. Power House
- E. Watchman
- F. Transformers
- H. Director's House
- I. Narodni Dom (Sokol)
- J. Old Gymnasium
- K. Pumps

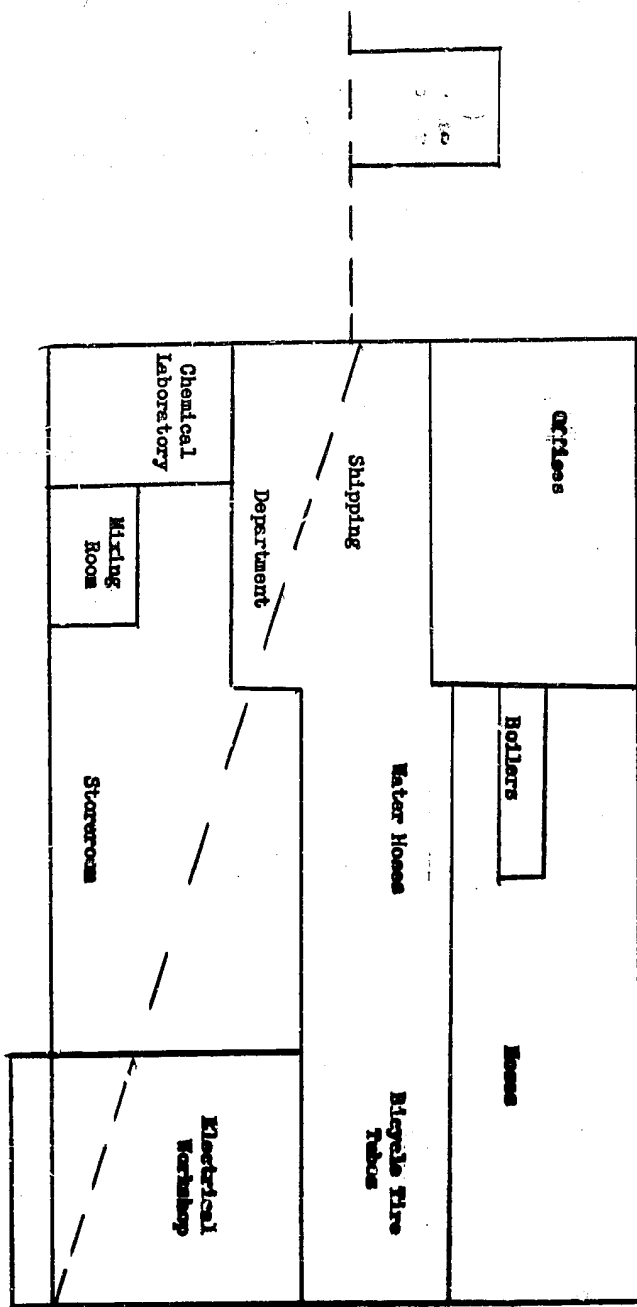
← JERANICE
50 Kilometers

LJUBLJANA →
20 Kilometers

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Building A

Section 1-1

BUILDING B, SECTION 1-1 OF KHALI ROBERT FACTORY

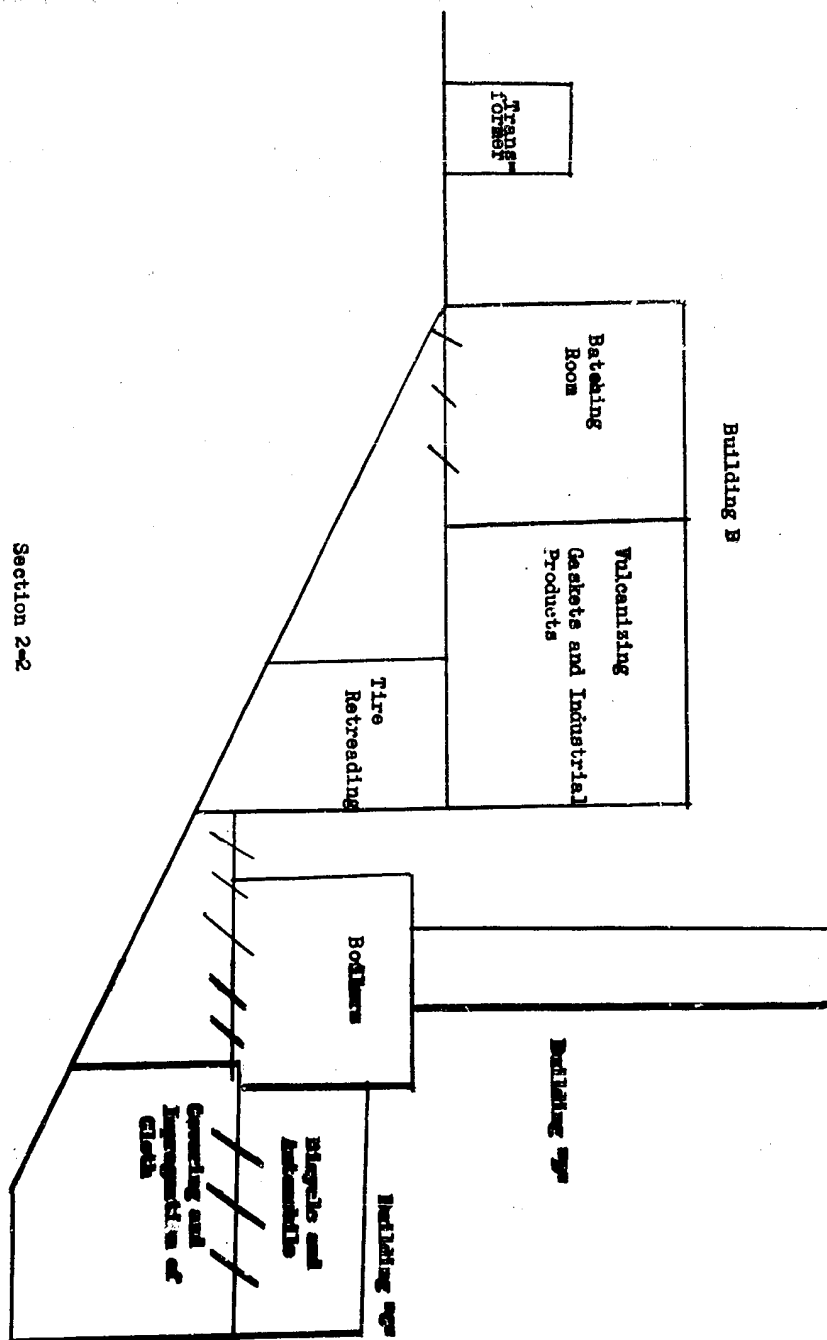
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ENCLOSURE (B)

ENCLOSURE (C)

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BUILDING B, SECTION 2-2 OF KRANJ RUBBER FACTORY



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